

# Independent Review



21 October 2013

## 1. Introduction

The Auckland Council Chief Executive has commissioned a review of the use of any council resources by the Office of the Mayor and any conflict of interest as it relates to the Mayor's relationship with Ms Bevan Chuang.

In light of issues raised, there is a need to provide a clear assurance that no council resources were misused by the Office of the Mayor. The independent review will be carried out by Ernst and Young.

## 2. Scope of review

The review will examine the following matters:

- any use of council resources within the Office of the Mayor, in respect of the Mayor's relationship with Ms Chuang, that contravenes council policies (eg payments and procurement);
- any improper preferential treatment in relation to Ms Chuang's engagement as an employee, contractor or an advisor within the Auckland Council Group; and
- any other issues that the reviewers or Chief Executive considers relate to, or arise out of, the above matters.

The period covered by the review is from 1 November 2010 until the 21 October 2013.

## 3. Reporting

The review will be conducted by an external party, Ernst and Young.

Ernst and Young will review relevant documentation held by the Office of the Mayor and any other relevant material held within the Auckland Council Group.

Once Ernst and Young have prepared a draft report, it will be provided to the Office of the Mayor and any other affected council party to enable them to provide feedback to ensure the review is factually accurate.

Ernst and Young will present a final report to the Auckland Council Chief Executive.

It is expected that the final report will be concluded not more than four weeks from the date of the review's commencement.

## 4. General policy on comment during the review

Once the review has commenced, Auckland Council and Ernst and Young will not make any public comment on the substance or progress of the review until the findings of the review are released. This approach protects the rights of those involved in the review and council's ability to carry out the work effectively and efficiently.